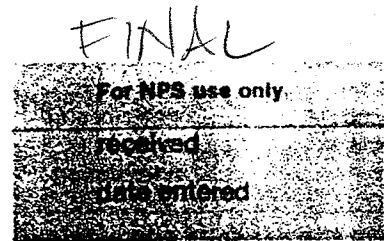


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



ALSO SEE BOUNDARY INCREASE

1. Name

Historic Resources of Downtown Terre Haute, Indiana (Partial inventory:
historic Historic and Architectural Properties)

and/or common Downtown Terre Haute

2. Location

Area bounded by Cherry, Ninth, Poplar and Third
street & number Streets, plus the County Courthouse N/A not for publication

city, town Terre Haute N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Indiana code 018 county Vigo code 167

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
Resource Area	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Vigo County Recorder's Office

street & number Vigo County Courthouse

city, town Terre Haute state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Indiana Historic Sites
title and Structures Inventory (See Continuation Sheet)
has this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ no

date 1979-1980 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Indiana State Department of Natural Resources

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	N/A	Builder/Architect	N/A
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The architectural resources included in this Multiple Resource nomination depict that period sometimes known as Terre Haute's "golden age," when the city experienced its greatest growth. Lasting from approximately 1890 until the late 1920's, this epoch witnessed the city's greatest industrial development, the rapid expansion of its population, and the emergence of the city as the region's preeminent commercial and retail center. The various factors involved in this transmogrification are all illustrated by the historic resources remaining in the downtown area.

Prior to the coming of European explorers and settlers, this region was the home of the Wea Indian tribe. French traders and Jesuit missionaries who arrived in the area early in the 18th century referred to the vicinity as Terre Haute (High Ground) because of its elevation above the Wabash River. In 1811 a military post was established in the area by General William Henry Harrison, and three small settlements developed nearby. The present city of Terre Haute, however, was not established until 1816, when a group of southern Indiana and Kentucky businessmen formed the Terre Haute Land Company, purchased a tract of land three miles south of Ft. Harrison from the Federal Government, and platted the town of Terre Haute, using a simple rectilinear grid plan. Two years later, when Vigo County was formed, these land speculators arranged to have Terre Haute made the county seat by donating money and several town lots, including the present Courthouse Square, to the county government.

The early growth of Terre Haute came about as a result of commercial flatboat traffic already established on the Wabash River. Steamboats from the Ohio River began calling on the town in 1823, providing a faster, more dependable means of transportation and helping to spur development of the city's pork packing industry a year later. The National Road was completed to the city in 1838, providing an additional means of entry for settlers from the east. The Wabash and Erie Canal reached Terre Haute in 1849, increasing trade with Lafayette and other areas to the northeast. All of these improvements prompted steady but unremarkable growth in the town's population over its first four decades.

The coming of the railroad in 1852 signaled the beginning of a new era for the community. By providing more ready access to the eastern markets, the railroad made feasible the mining of Vigo County's abundant coal reserves. Other early industry attracted by the combination of good transportation systems and locally-available coal included an iron and nail works, a foundry, and several brick manufacturers. The influx of workers who labored in these new industries stimulated the city's growth. From a population of 4,051 in 1850, the city grew to number 8,594 by 1860, 16,103 by 1870, and 26,042 by 1880. The commercial and retail sections of the city's economy expanded along with the population; this growth resulted in the construction of many new commercial structures in the downtown area. Over the subsequent years, all of Terre Haute's pre-1850 commercial buildings gave way to new construction. This trend continued until the city's growth was slowed by the Great Depression.

Architecturally, Terre Haute's downtown resources include some of the most notable buildings in the area. Although no structures survive from the first half of the 19th century, almost every late 19th and early 20th century architectural style is represented. The old building, Carr's Hall (building 28) and a number of other structures in the downtown

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Downtown Terre Haute

Item number 2

Page 1

The following properties are included in this nomination:

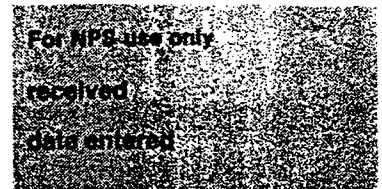
<u>Building No.</u>	<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Building Name</u>
28	1	329-333 Walnut	Carr's Hall
45	2	601-603 Ohio	Star Building
52	3	683 Ohio	Indiana Theatre
54	4	727 Ohio	Hippodrome
57	5	823 Ohio	
64	6	510-516 Ohio	
68	7	630 Ohio	First Congregational Church
89	8	509 Wabash	First National Bank
99	9	645 Wabash	United States Trust Company Bldg.
152	10	810 Wabash	
154	11	822 Wabash	Terminal Arcade
158	12	627 Cherry	Chamber of Commerce Building
195	13	Courthouse Square	Vigo County Courthouse
219	14	201 S. 5th	Phoenix Club
236	15	23-25-27 S. 6th	
237	16	19-21 S. 6th	Citizens Trust Company Bldg.
255	17,18	7th and Cherry	Terre Haute Post Office & Federal Bldg.
299	19	16-28 S. 8th	Odd Fellows Temple
315	20	209-211 S. 9th	
318	21,22	119 S. 9th	

Wabash Avenue — West District

83		417-419 Wabash	
84	26	421-423 Wabash	Cook, Bell, and Bauermeister Block
85	23	425 Wabash	
86	24	429 Wabash	
87	25	431 Wabash	
125	35	400-406 Wabash	
126	34	408 Wabash	
127		410 Wabash	
128		412 Wabash	
129		416 Wabash	
130		418 Wabash	
131		420 Wabash	
132		422-424 Wabash	Intrusion
133	31	426-428 Wabash	White Block — J.A. VENDAUGH, ARCHITECT
134		508-510 Wabash	
135		512-514 Wabash	
136	27	518-520 Wabash	Albrecht Building

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Downtown Terre Haute

Item number 6

Page 3

All structures included in this nomination were determined eligible on January 4, 1982, with the exception of the Vigo County Courthouse, and the north side of Wabash Avenue between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received _____
date entered _____

Continuation sheet Downtown Terre Haute

Item number 8

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area (buildings 236, 269, 270) are of Italianate design, with elaborate cornices and window hoods and cast-iron storefronts. Sometimes built in the form of blocks with multiple retail storefronts and upper story office space (building 105), the Italianate remained an important building type in Terre Haute until the close of the 19th century. To a large extent, the use of cast-iron elements in these structures was caused by the ready availability of this building material from manufacturers in nearby Evansville.

Several examples of the Renaissance Revival style are included among the city's downtown buildings. This style was often employed in commercial buildings similar in scale to the earliest Italianate structures. Examples include Swope's Block (building 253) and the Odd Fellows Temple (building 293). The latter structure, notable for its finely-crafted limestone facade, was designed by Charles Padgett, a local builder who took his architectural degree from the International Correspondence School. The Renaissance Revival style was sometimes used in institutional buildings; the Phoenix Club (building 219), erected in 1905, shows a great amount of Renaissance Revival influence.

The Romanesque Revival style was one of the most popular in the city at the turn of the century, and several notable structures of this type survive in the downtown area. These structures vary in scale from the three-story structure at 522 Wabash Avenue (building 137) to the Tribune Building (building 107), a six-story building erected in 1912. Two excellent examples, both the work of a local architect, are located at 400-406 Wabash (building 125) and 426-428 Wabash (building 133). They were designed by Jupiter C. Vrydagh, a Rose Polytechnic graduate who took over the practice of his father, Jesse A. Vrydagh, after the latter's death. Jupiter Vrydagh also served as architect for the city's school board.

Many of the Neo Classical buildings in Terre Haute were constructed for financial institutions, which were partial to the air of dignity and solidarity this style imparts. The Fort Harrison Savings Association (building 149), the First National Bank (building 89), designed by H. Jenny, and the U. S. Trust Company (building 99) by S. S. Beman, are good examples of the Neo Classical style executed in stone and brick. Although Jenny and Beman were both Chicago architects, the radical remodeling of the U. S. Trust Company was accomplished by a local firm, Johnson, Miller, Miller, and Yeager, which also was responsible for a number of buildings on the Indiana State University campus north of the downtown area.

Among the other styles represented in the downtown are examples of 20th century commercial (building 45), and Chicago-school architecture (building 106). The downtown area also features several structures whose unusual architectural design is otherwise unknown in the city. The building at 408 Wabash (building 126), for example, is the city's only example of Moorish-inspired architecture, while 425-431 Wabash (buildings 85, 86 and 87) is the city's sole surviving French Second Empire style commercial block. The downtown's only Beaux-Arts building, the Terminal Arcade (building 154) is notable also as one of the earlier works of famed Chicago architect Daniel Burnham, while the area's two theaters (buildings 52 and 54), both designed by John Eberson, provide the city with examples of Spanish Baroque and German Renaissance design. Among the newer buildings is the United States Post Office (building 255), one of the few Art Deco structures in the city.

Carr's Hall
329-333 Walnut Street
d. 1857

Owner: Paul & Mildred Trotzke
333 Walnut Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807

Description:

Photo #1, Bldg. #28

Carr's Hall, one of Terre Haute's oldest buildings, is a two-story brick commercial structure located at the southwest corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets. The building is Italianate in design and has a rectangular plan and a flat roof. The main (north) facade, which faces Walnut Street, contains the majority of the building's decorative elements. Most significant of these is the cast-iron storefront on the ground floor of this facade, which is highlighted by square pilasters with elaborate foliated capitals. The second floor level of this facade is composed of six equal bays, each containing an identical two-over-two, double-hung window. These windows have cast-iron sills and elaborate pedimented window surrounds with label stops. Over each of these windows, just below the frieze area, is a foliated, cast-iron attic vent. Surmounting the vents is a narrow frieze decorated with dentils and elaborate brackets which support the projecting cornice.

The east facade, which faces Fourth Street, lacks the detailing found on the north side of the building. Both levels on the east facade were originally comprised of nine equal-sized bays, each containing a rectangular door or window, with simple cast-iron sills and lintels. Many of these have been filled in with brick, as have all of the window openings in the west facade. The other major exterior alteration to the building is located in the northwest corner, where structural repair work was done at the expense of one ground floor pilaster and one second-floor window hood.

Significance:

Carr's Hall is significant architecturally as a good representative example of a brick commercial structure with cast-iron detailing—an important type in Terre Haute's heritage. The building is also significant for its historical use as a meeting place for various religious, social, and cultural groups since the mid-19th century.

The building was constructed in 1857 by Moses Carr, who used the ground floor as a grocery and drygoods store. The large hall on the second floor was quickly rented by Walker Hegeman, who, in December, 1857, opened it as Terre Haute's first theater. Competition with a second theater, opened less than a year later, caused both establishments to close by March, 1859. In later years the hall was used by a succession of different religious groups, prior to their constructing their own churches, and it was also the site of various social events.

Architecturally, the building is an early example of the Italianate style, and features elaborate window moldings and a large decorative cornice. Unlike many later commercial buildings in the city, the main facade of Carr's Hall has been spared extensive storefront remodelings and retains its original cast-iron pilasters. The building is thought to be the oldest commercial structure remaining in the city.

Star Building
601-603 Ohio Street
d. 1912

Owner: Charles Newlin
601-603 Ohio Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807

Description:

Photo #2, Bldg. #45

The Star Building, located at the southwest corner of Sixth and Ohio Streets, is a four-story brick structure with limestone and terra cotta detailing. Constructed in 1912 to house the city's morning newspaper, the Terre Haute Star, the building exhibits some of the design elements normally associated with Chicago School architecture.

The Star Building is rectangular in plan, and features a continuous stone foundation. The main (north) facade, facing Ohio Street, is divided into three bays by brick piers which extend from the foundation wall to the roof. These piers feature limestone bases, terra cotta ornamentation just above the first floor level, and decorative brick and terra cotta detailing just below the cornice. The easternmost ground floor bay contains the main entry; all upper story bays in this facade contain large windows with terra cotta sills. A large cyma recta molding of terra cotta appears between the first and second floor, and a pressed metal, flush cornice is used to crown the building. The cornice features decorative rounded arches containing stylized pendants over each pier. The seven-bay western facade, facing Sixth Street, is similar in composition to the north facade with the exception of doorway location. Within the last few years, a metal awning was added over the first floor at the northwest corner of the building, sheltering modified windows, but no other exterior alterations have been made.

Significance:

The Star Building is historically significant as the home of one of the city's most influential newspapers, the Terre Haute Star. The Star is the descendant of Terre Haute's first daily, the Wabash Daily Express, which commenced publication on May 12, 1851. The paper was later purchased by George F. McCulloch, a wealthy Indianapolis traction magnate and promoter. McCulloch, who already owned two other newspapers, the Indianapolis Star and the Muncie Star, renamed the paper the Terre Haute Morning Star. John C. Shaffer purchased the Morning Star in 1903 and changed the paper's name to the Terre Haute Star. In 1912 Shaffer constructed this building to house the newspaper's operations, mounting the presses so that they could be viewed by the public through one of the Sixth Street windows. The paper remained in this building until 1937, when the Tribune Publishing Company purchased the Star, and moved the operation to the Tribune Building at 721 Wabash Avenue. The Star Building now houses a real estate agency and the local Indiana State Employment Security Division office.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/464760/4368280

Boundary: Map #1806-21, Block #479, Parcel #001

Indiana Theatre
683 Ohio Street

Building #52, Continued

cities in the 1920's, the Indiana Theatre featured lavish interior appointments, including ornate plasterwork, mosaic tile, and a fountain. The exterior made abundant use of terra cotta ornamentation manufactured by American Terra Cotta and Ceramic Company, of Chicago. Constructed by the John A. Schumacher Company, of Indianapolis, the building cost over \$750,000 when it was completed in 1921. Flourishing throughout the first half of the century, the Indiana was, by 1980, the only functioning theatre in the central business district.

Eberson also was responsible for the design of the Embassy Theatre in Fort Wayne, listed on the National Register in 1975.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/464960/4368280

Boundary: Map #1806-21, Block 479, Parcel 14

Hippodrome Theatre
727 Ohio Street

Building #54, Continued

Chicago, and Houston. In his design for the Hippodrome, Eberson used heavy massing, polychromy, and sculptural ornamentation in a manner reminiscent of the German Renaissance style.

The Hippodrome was built in 1915 as a vaudeville house, and as such featured some of the most famous popular entertainers of the era. During the summer months, a varied fare of plays was provided, with traveling stock companies presenting different productions each week. In 1929, with the decline of vaudeville's popularity, the Hippodrome closed its doors. It was reopened as a cinema and operated under the name "Wabash Theatre" from 1949 to 1955. In 1955, the Scottish Rite purchased and occupied the building, and has maintained the building with few modifications since that time.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/465090/4368290

Boundary: Map #1806-22, Block 355, Parcel 005

510-516 Ohio Street
d. 1891-92

Owner: Woodburn Printing Co.
510-16 Ohio Street
Terre Haute, Indiana

Description:

Photo #6, Bldg. #64

This large brick commercial structure, built between 1891 and 1892, is a relatively restrained version of the Italianate style. It has a rectangular plan and a flat roof, and features decorative detailing of stone, pressed metal, and cast iron. The building was purchased by its present owner in 1964 and renovated in 1975.

The main facade of this three-story structure, which faces south onto Ohio Street, contains the bulk of the building's architectural detailing. The ground floor area of this facade is divided into five equal bays by cast iron pilasters; the three westernmost pilasters are highly decorated while those to the east are slimmer and lack this detailing. These pilasters support a frieze and a small cornice which stretches across this facade just above the ground floor level. The present ground floor fenestration is the result of a relatively recent remodeling. The second and third floors of the building are identical, divided into three major sections by piers faced with rusticated limestone, centered over the three westernmost pilasters, ascending from the ground floor cornice to the building's frieze. The two smaller units to the west contain three identical segmental arched windows each, per floor. The larger eastern unit contains five window openings on each floor. The center openings contain a double window unit surmounted by a single segmental arch, while the other openings contain segmental-arched windows identical to those in the western bays. The facade terminates with a pressed-metal frieze and bracketed cornice.

Significance:

The building at 510-516 Ohio Street is architecturally significant as an intact and representative example of late 19th century brick commercial architecture with cast-iron detailing—a significant local type associated with the city's rapid growth in the late 19th century. This building type became particularly popular in Terre Haute because the necessary cast-iron elements were readily available from fabricators in nearby Evansville. This particular structure, built in 1890-91 for Julia Patrick, still retains its cast-iron pilasters, as well as its stone detailing and upper story fenestration. Originally, this building housed the Hunter and Pickley livery and Sam Frank's clothing factory; since 1964 it has been owned by the Woodburn Printing Company, which undertook a rehabilitation in 1975.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/464660/4368340

Boundary: Map #1806-21, Parcel #015, Block #476

First Congregational Church
630 Ohio Street

Building #68 Continued

meeting halls, the building is particularly notable for its square tower, limestone capped buttresses, its lancet windows, and its stone water table and coping.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/464810/4368330

Boundary: Map #1806-21, Block #477, Parcel #030

Terre Haute First National Bank
645 Wabash Avenue
Terre Haute, Indiana

Photo #9, Bldg. #99

The United States Trust Company building is architecturally significant as a fine local example of Neo-Classical architecture. The exterior of the building takes its design from the classic triumphal arch form. The interior of the building features a barrel-vaulted ceiling decorated with murals. Originally, the home of the United States Trust Company, this building is now owned by the Terre Haute National Bank, a successor firm created by a 1928 bank merger.

810 Wabash
c. 1870

Owner: George Oltean
810 Wabash
Terre Haute, Indiana

Description:

Photo #10, Bldg. #152

810 Wabash Avenue is a small, two-story commercial building located at the western edge of the downtown area. A brick building with cast-iron detailing, this Italianate structure, believed to date from the 1870's, still retains a significant amount of its architectural integrity.

The ground floor of the main (south) facade features an elaborate, intact, four-bay, cast-iron storefront. Counting from the west, the first and third bays of this storefront contain entry doors, while the second and fourth contain large display windows. Pilasters separate these bays, and their capitals serve as the imposts for the rounded-arch arcade. The spandrel areas are treated to simulate rusticated stonework, and also feature incuse roundels with decorative carving.

The brick second floor area of this facade is similarly divided into four bays, each containing a double-hung, rounded-arch window with an elaborate hood mold with a pronounced keystone. The original cornice has been removed; a simple parapet wall with a clay tile cap now terminates this facade.

Significance:

810 Wabash Avenue is architecturally significant as a good intact example of small-scale commercial architecture in the Italianate style. Despite the loss of its cornice, it possesses an unusual degree of integrity on both the first and second floors. Constructed in approximately 1870, the building has housed a tavern for many years.

This building is one of the very few Italianate commercial structures in town which has not suffered a major remodeling of its original storefront. The ground floor features a four-bay arcade, constructed of cast iron treated to resemble stone. The second floor, constructed of red brick, echoes this arcade design. The unaltered condition of the ground floor storefront makes this small commercial building unique among its type in the city.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/465130/4368440

Boundary: Map #1806-22, Block #310, Parcel #007

Terminal Arcade (1911)
822 Wabash Avenue

Building #154, Continued

The building is an unusual and excellent example of the early work of Daniel Burnham, who later became much more famous as a leading designer of the Chicago School. This small Beaux-Arts structure features an unusual skewed plan (owing to the irregularity of the building site) with identical entry facades at both the north and south ends. These facades carved from Wallner limestone, obtained from Bedford, Indiana, were executed by J. W. Quayle and Fred Elder, and are considered to be among their best handiwork. Especially notable are the carved fruit baskets at the apex of each facade.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/465180/4368440

Boundary: Map #1806-22, Block #310, Parcel #010

Vigo County Courthouse
Courthouse Square

Owner: Vigo County Commissioners
Vigo County Courthouse
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807

Description:

Photo 13 and 52, Bldg. 195

The Vigo County Courthouse is an imposing stone building located in the center of the Courthouse Square in Terre Haute. The third building to serve the county government, the present courthouse was completed in 1888 according to plans drawn up by Cincinnati architect Samuel Hannaford. A French Second Empire-style structure, it continues to serve as the seat of government for Vigo County.

In plan, the Courthouse is shaped like a cross, but the roof plan suggests a rectangular structure with wings extending out to the north and south. The building stands three stories above an elevated basement. The foundation level of the building features rusticated rock-faced stone construction with rectangular window openings. On the rectangular (east-west) section, rounded-arch windows are used in pairs, separated by pilasters, on the second floor level, while the third floor features taller, wider, rounded-arch windows with pronounced keystones. Between these window openings are pilasters whose capitals feature a palm branch motif. A heavy cornice marks the beginning of the mansard roof with its segmental-arched or gabled dormers.

The north and south wings are similar but employ rectangular windows on each level.

An entry pavilion appears at the center of each facade and includes a flat-roofed portico at the main floor level, with paired columns and a surmounting balustrade. Above the portico each pavilion's center bay is framed by paired, fluted, Corinthian pilasters supporting a segmental arched pediment. Surmounting each of these is a convex dormer containing a pedimented opening. Originally, each pavilion featured exterior stone steps which provided access to the main floor entrances; these have been removed from all but the east facade.

Rising from the center of the building is a three-tiered, octagonal tower featuring a variety of decorative elements. The first level has engaged columns at each corner and features rectangular windows on alternating faces of the tower. Round arched windows appear on the second level, separated from the lower rectangular windows by a heavy cornice. On the third tier, alternating tower faces are pedimented and contain large clock faces flanked by engaged columns. The tower's large dome rises from this level and is surmounted by a small domed lantern.

Significance:

The Vigo County Courthouse is significant for its architecture and for its association with the county governmental system over the last century. The building is an imposing stone edifice of French Second Empire design, with a tower that continues to dominate the city's skyline. Since its completion in 1888, it has housed the offices and courtrooms of the Vigo County government.

Phoenix Club
201 S. 5th
d. 1905

Owner: Terre Haute Labor Temple Assn.
201 S. 5th Street
Terre Haute, Indiana

Description:

Photo #14, Bldg. #219

The Phoenix Club is located at the southwest corner of Fifth and Walnut Streets in downtown Terre Haute, just south of the St. Joseph Church and School District (#220-222). It was constructed in 1905 to house the Phoenix Club, a Jewish men's organization, and later was the home of the Central Labor Union of Vigo County. Constructed of pressed red brick with limestone detailing, this two-story building features many of the design elements associated with Renaissance Revival architecture.

Except for a polygonal bay projecting from the east end of the south facade, the building is basically rectangular in plan with a symmetrical facade. The main entry is contained in a rounded-arch opening in the center of the east facade, and is en-framed in limestone. Owing to the elevated ground floor, access to this entry is provided by a set of stone steps. Two rectangular, double-hung windows appear on either side of this entry, each surmounted by a flat arch stone lintel with a pronounced keystone. The sills for these windows are formed by a stone string course which continues across the facade. A gauged brick string course separates the ground floor level from the second story, which features three pairs of round-arched windows with plain stone hoods. Here, again, a stone string course serves as each window's sill. A limestone tablet just under the string course bears the legend, "AD-1905," the construction date of the building. In the center of the building, just above the second floor windows, is a small stone element, similar to a bartisan, which projects through the building's dentiled cornice and continues above the low parapet wall. This round, turned detail is purely decorative in nature.

The wing which projects from the south side of the building is similar in design to the main facade, with rectangular windows on the ground floor and round arched windows on the second story level. This bay also features the same string coursing and cornice detail employed on the main facade. The east and north facades are relatively plain, with simple rectactangular windows on each level.

The interior of the building retains much of its original character. The ground floor features two major meeting rooms with original woodwork, pressed tin ceilings, and imitation leather wainscoting. The second floor originally contained a ballroom, but this has been divided into office space.

Significance:

The Phoenix Club is historically significant for its association with the organization of labor in Terre Haute and with the development of the Socialist labor party in the early 20th century. Originally built to house a Jewish fraternal organization, the building was acquired in 1923 by the Central Labor Union of Vigo County, and was renamed the Temple of Labor. A center for local labor organizing efforts throughout the 1920's and 1930's, the Temple was visited by a number of people important in the Socialist Party at that time. It was here that labor leader Eugene V. Debs' body lay in state after his death in October, 1926. The building was also the unofficial headquarters for strikers during Terre Haute's General Strike of 1935, one of the few general strikes in the country.

23-25-27 South Sixth Street
d. 1882

Owner: Woodburn Printing Co.
23-25-27 S. Sixth Street
Terre Haute, Indiana

Description:

Photo #15, Bldg. #236

This structure is a two-story commercial building built in the Italianate style in the late 19th century. The building is rectangular in plan with a flat roof, and features a cast-iron storefront on the ground floor of the main facade. A 1975 renovation included the repainting of the exterior, with special attention given to the ornate paneled frieze and cornice.

The ground floor of the symmetrical main (east) facade is divided into three bays by heavy cast-iron pilasters. The center bay is slightly recessed and contains a large display window flanked by two entry doors. The other two bays on this level are identical, each containing a large display window. The second floor is divided into ten identical bays, each containing a tall, narrow window with a segmental arch top. Stone voussoirs are used to frame the openings over these windows. A stone string course serves as a continuous sill for all ten windows. Above these windows is an entablature featuring a paneled frieze, paired brackets, and a projecting cornice. The name of the current owner is painted between the second floor windows and the cornice, and also above the center ground floor window.

Significance:

The building at 23-25-27 South Sixth Street is architecturally significant as an intact and representative example of the late 19th century brick commercial architecture with cast-iron detailing—an important building type in Terre Haute's architectural heritage. This building has been spared major alterations and still retains its pressed metal cornice, segmental arched windows, and ground floor cast-iron pilasters and columns.

Constructed in 1882, this building was originally the home of A. B. McWhinney and Company. This firm dealt in confections, baked goods, and imported and domestic fruit on both the retail and wholesale level. The building was purchased by the current occupant, the Woodburn Printing Company, in 1910.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/464720/4368340

Boundary: Map #1806-21, Block #476, Parcel #018

Terre Haute Post Office and Federal Building 7th and Cherry Streets d. 1932	Owner: United States Post Office 7th and Cherry Streets Terre Haute, Indiana
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Description:

Photo #17, 18, Bldg. #255

Terre Haute's Post Office and Federal Building, located at the southwest corner of Seventh and Cherry Streets, is the city's most imposing example of Art Deco architecture. Rectangular in plan, the three-story building features dressed limestone veneer over a steel I-beam frame, with a foundation, basement, and roof of steel-reinforced concrete. The main facade is symmetrical, with entry doors located in the large bays at either extreme end. Metal grillwork is used to decorate the window areas above these doors; this grillwork features geometric designs and stylized American eagles in octagonal metal plaques. Between the two end bays, the facade is divided into eleven narrow, two-story bays, delineated by fluted piers. These bays are all identical, containing narrow windows decorated with metal grillwork. The attic area features horizontal banding carved around the perimeter of the building, with decorative carvings in roundels over the entry doors. The interior of the building features movable paneling, metal grillwork, and American eagle and Egyptian floral motifs.

Significance;

The Terre Haute Post Office and Federal Building is architecturally significant as an excellent local example of the Art Deco style as adapted for use in government buildings. One of the few examples of its style in Terre Haute's downtown area, this 1932 building has escaped major alterations and continues to serve in its original capacity.

The Post Office and Federal Building was designed by the local architectural firm of Miller and Yeager under the direction of architect James A. Wetmore. The structure features many of the Art Deco features popular during the 1930's, including the use of geometric massing, vertical patterning of the fenestration, and cast aluminum spandrels. The interior of the building continues the Art Deco treatment, with the employment of marble paneling, metal grillwork, and stylized American eagles and Egyptian floral motifs. Except for the addition of handicapped access ramps and aluminum-framed automatic doors, the building appears much as it did when constructed fifty years ago.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/464940/4368500

Boundary: Map #1806-21, Block #432, Parcel #009

Odd Fellows Temple
16-28 S. Eighth

Building #299, Continued

Architecturally, the building is an excellent example of its style. The symmetrical main facade, the arcaded third floor, and the use of a cornice and parapet are all hallmarks of the Second Renaissance Revival style. Other important detailing includes the use of stone string courses between floors, rusticated stonework, quoining, and a variety of window trim. The building has incurred few alterations and remains one of the city's most distinctive 20th century commercial structures.

Terre Haute's first chapter of the International Order of Odd Fellows was established in 1848. By the turn of the century, when membership in fraternal organizations was widespread, this group had increased both in size and in financial strength to the point that construction of a large clubhouse was feasible. Major contractors on the project were chosen from within the organization's ranks; William J. White served as general superintendent, and Albert W. Ravell was the brick contractor. The building contained six ground floor retail spaces and thirty second-floor professional offices; the third floor was reserved for activities of the lodge, itself. The Odd Fellows retained ownership of the building until 1973, when declining enrollment in the organization reduced income and necessitated the sale of the structure. The building still provides retail and office space for various firms and remains a local landmark.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/465110/4368340

Boundary: Map #1806-22, Block #352, Parcel #012

119 S. Ninth Street
c. 1886-92

Owner: Most Rev. George Biscup
119 S. 9th Street
Terre Haute, Indiana

Description:

Photo #21, 22, Bldg. #318

This large brick home, built between 1886 and 1892, is located on the southwest corner of Ohio and Ninth Streets. An example of the more refined, less ostentatious version of the Queen Anne style, it nonetheless retains the massing, irregular roofline, chamfered corners, and projecting bays commonly seen in the most exuberant Queen Anne residences.

The home features an irregular plan and an asymmetrical main (north) facade. The main entrance, surmounted by a transom, is sheltered by a brick front porch with a pedimented roof. A stone water table is employed to separate the ground floor from the foundation. Windows throughout the structure are rectangular, double-hung units with stone sills and lintels. The large window in the north facade is surmounted by a stained glass transom, and stained glass is also employed in the polygonal bay located at the northeast corner. A two-story, bowed bay which appears in the middle of the east facade is surmounted by a projecting gable. Similar small gables appear on the north and west elevations, and a larger gable is used over the south facade. All gabled areas throughout the house are faced with slate siding material. Roofline trim includes a large overhanging cornice and a dentiled frieze.

Significance:

The house at 119 S. Ninth Street is architecturally significant as a fine and well-preserved example of a brick residence in the Queen Anne style. Built for a prosperous merchant around 1890, the building is distinguished for its massing and for its brick and slate fabric, corner bays, projecting and pedimented gables, and stained glass windows. It is considered representative of the housing built by Terre Haute's rising merchant class in the late 19th century.

The home was built by Louis Finkbiner, sometime between 1886 and 1892. Finkbiner, who lived in the home until 1915, was a prominent and wealthy hardware merchant. In 1916 St. Benedict's parish bought the property and used it as a convent for the Sisters of Providence who taught at St. Benedict's school. Currently, the building is the residence of St. Benedict's church organist.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/465190/4368280

Boundary: Map #1806-22, Block #356, Parcel #005

Wabash Avenue—West Historic District

Multiple Ownership

Detailing in the adjacent unit, 429 Wabash, is identical, although that facade features a stone veneer.

The third unit, 431 Wabash, is located on the corner of Wabash and Fifth Streets, is brick, and features more elaborate detailing. The ground floor of this unit has also been remodeled. The second floor of the Wabash Avenue facade features a single double-hung unit with a classical pediment, while the third floor contains a pair of segmental arched windows with heavy hood molds. The Fifth Street facade has a tripartite design: the center section, three bays wide, is slightly recessed, thus giving the single-bay units on either side the appearance of pavilions. The center section contains flat-headed windows on the second story, with stone sills and hoods with a trefoil motif. Below the sills are paneled stone aprons. The third floor windows have segmental arched tops with stone hoods and console keystones. The flanking pavilions have more elaborate fenestration: each contains, on the second floor level, a double-hung window set into an opening similar to that on the Wabash facade, featuring fluted pilasters, a heavy pediment, and a stone apron. The paired windows on the third floor have segmental arched tops and hood molds with pronounced keystones. A stone string course serves as the sill for these windows. Ornate dormers originally appeared in the mansard over the pavilions, but these have been removed and the windows are now recessed.

Cook, Bell, and Bauermeister Block
421-423 Wabash Avenue

Photo 26, Bldg. 84

This Victorian commercial structure was built in 1890 and survives with a minimum of alterations. It is a three-story structure with a symmetrical main facade, employing an unusual combination of cast-iron and stone. The ground floor contains two retail spaces separated by a center doorway which provides access to the upper floors. These retail spaces originally featured identical cast-iron storefronts; although still intact, one of these was covered over in a recent storefront remodeling. On the second floor, pilasters alternate with engaged Ionic columns to divide the facade into seven bays, each containing a rectangular double-hung, one-over-one window. Fenestration of the third floor is identical to that of the second floor, but pilasters are used exclusively to separate the bays on this level. A rectangular stone panel bearing a floral carving appears just below the center bay on the third floor, while above this bay is a semicircular panel carved with a scroll bearing the construction date of the building, "1890." The pressed metal entablature above the third floor windows includes a plain architrave, a paneled frieze, and a cornice supported by modillions. A parapet wall flanked by consoles, stretches across the middle third of the building above the cornice line. A restaurant currently occupies this building, along with retail shops and professional offices.

Wabash Avenue—West Historic District

Multiple Ownership

408 Wabash (Continued)

cartouche at its apex. The center window on the third floor features a horseshoe arch with a similar cartouche. The flanking bays on both levels contain slightly narrower horseshoe-arched windows with vermiculated key-stones. All of the windows feature heavy hood molds connected by a narrow impost course. Pilasters flank the center bay, and quoins are employed at the corners of the facade. The original frieze has been removed and the cornice has been reduced and simplified.

White Block
426-428 Wabash Avenue

Photo 31 (far right)
Bldg. 133

The White Block, constructed in 1899, is a large Romanesque Revival-style building located at the corner of Fifth Street and Wabash Avenue. The building features pressed brick construction with limestone and terra cotta detailing, and remains relatively intact despite an inappropriate ground floor remodeling. The White Block has been a prominent downtown landmark for the last 80 years, due in part to the domed tower which rises from the northwest corner of the building.

The upper two stories of the Fifth Street facade, which stretches for more than 130', is divided into equal-sized bays by pilasters rising from the limestone belt course at the second floor level. On each floor, each bay contains a pair of double-hung windows in recessed panels separated by wooden mullions. The Wabash Street facade is approximately 41' wide and is likewise divided into bays by pilasters. The center bay of this facade contains a single double-hung window on each floor, while the flanking bays feature paired window units similar to those on the Fifth Street facade. All of these windows feature limestone sills. On both facades, terra cotta panels appear in the frieze area, surmounted by two courses of egg-and-dart molding and a pressed metal cyma recta cornice. Above the cornice is a low brick parapet wall with a stone cap.

The building's distinctive round tower rises from the second floor level of the building's northeast corner. The second story level of this tower contains a pair of rectangular windows, while a pair of rounded-arch windows appear in the tower's third story. All of these windows feature stone sills and gauged brick hood molds. Terra cotta tiles bearing the legend "White" appear in the tower's frieze. The highlight of the tower is the round dome which rises above the building's parapet level. This ribbed metal dome still retains a decorative metal finial at its apex.

The Albrecht Building
518-520 Wabash

Photo 27, Bldg. 136

This five-story Romanesque Revival building was constructed in 1893 by two local merchants, Max Hoberg and Sheldon Swope. It was remodeled six years later according to plans prepared by F. J. Scholtes, a local architect. Since that time, except for a recent remodeling of the ground floor facade,

Koopman Building
32-34 N. 6th Street

No Photo, Bldg. 239

The Koopman Building, built in 1875, is a three-story brick Italianate structure located at the southwest corner of Sixth and Cherry Streets. The ground floor of the east facade has been remodeled, and the original cast-iron pilasters have been covered over, but the upper two floors remain unaltered. Both the second and the third floors contain seven equal bays, each featuring a large double-hung window with a stone sill and a pressed metal hood. The building also features an elaborate pressed metal entablature, including a paneled frieze, a cornice with dentils, and large decorative brackets. The Koopman Building currently houses a barber shop, a loan company, and an office supply store.

Blumberg Building
526 Wabash Avenue

Photo 30, Bldg. 139

This three-story structure, built around 1915, is a combination of Classical Revival and Chicago School elements. The ground floor has been altered and now contains large display windows and a recessed entrance. The upper two floors, both two bays wide, feature stone piers and very large, Chicago-style windows. The piers feature narrow stone capitals at the third floor lintel level, which support egg-and-dart labels over the third floor transoms. The frieze, which formerly carried the name "Blumberg," now features only the two rosette paterae which formerly flanked the legend. Above the frieze is a classical cornice embellished with dentils and modillions, and surmounting the cornice is a low parapet.

Significance:

The Wabash Avenue—West Historic District is significant architecturally for its fine collection of commercial architecture in a variety of late 19th and early 20th century styles. The area includes the city's only examples of Second Empire and Moorish commercial architecture, as well as Italianate, Romanesque Revival, Renaissance Revival, and Chicago style commercial structures. Comprising what is probably the largest concentration of historic commercial architecture in the city, this district remains a viable part of Terre Haute's downtown area.

The Wabash Avenue—West Historic District straddles the original eastern boundary of Terre Haute, now known as Fifth Street. Developed along with the original downtown plat, this district is among the oldest areas of the city, with initial development dating back to the 1820's. Early histories indicate that the area originally saw mixed use as both a commercial and residential area. Later in the 19th century, however, as Terre Haute began to grow at a frenetic pace, this area grew to be almost purely commercial in nature. By the end of the 19th century, it had become the center of Terre Haute's central business district, and its buildings housed a large number of the city's finest retail establishments and professional offices, as well as one of the city's leading hotels. Throughout the 20th century, this area has escaped the demolition common in other parts of the downtown, and continues to retain its original professional office/retail character.

Wabash Avenue—West Historic District

Multiple Ownership

Verbal Boundary Description (Continued)

then north along the eastern curbline of Fourth Street to the alley located between Cherry Street and Wabash Avenue; then east along the southern edge of this alley across Fifth to the alley located between Fifth and Sixth Streets; then north along the eastern edge of this alley to Cherry Street; then east along the south curbline of Cherry Street to the north extension of the east property line of the property located at 31-35 N. Sixth Street; then south along this line to the point of beginning.

West Wabash District Building Inventory

<u>Building Number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Building Name</u>
83	417-419 Wabash	Cook, Bell, and Bauermeister Bl.
84	421-423 Wabash	
85	425 Wabash	
86	429 Wabash	
87	431 Wabash	
125	400-406 Wabash	Intrusion White Block
126	408 Wabash	
127	410 Wabash	
128	412 Wabash	
129	416 Wabash	
130	418 Wabash	Albrecht Building
131	420 Wabash	
132	422-424 Wabash	
133	426-428 Wabash	
134	508-510 Wabash	
135	512-514 Wabash	Blumberg Building
136	518-520 Wabash	
137	522 Wabash	
138	524 Wabash	
139	526 Wabash	
223	431 Wabash	Chanticleer Building Koopman Building Hotel Deming Parking Lot (Intrusion)
238	20-26 N. 6th	
239	32-34 N. 6th	
247	21-35 N. 6th	
	500 Wabash	

Wabash Avenue—East Historic District

Multiple Ownership

Terre Haute Trust Company
701-703 Wabash

Photo 39, Bldg. 106

The Terre Haute Trust Company built this Chicago School structure in 1906.. Faced with brick and limestone, the building is eight stories tall and faces north on Wabash Avenue. The major (north and west) facades are both organized vertically on a three-part design scheme. In the first section, consisting of the lower two floors, the limestone facade is divided into equal-sized bays by two-story pilasters decorated with acanthus leaves. These pilasters visually support an entablature with a projecting cornice. The second section, comprising floors three through seven, begins at this cornice line. Each of these floors is identical, featuring brick construction and large window openings grouped in pairs. Two stone belt courses cap this unit and form the base for the final design unit, consisting of the eighth floor, the cornice, and the parapet. The eighth floor is surmounted by a wide metal frieze decorated with cartouches and dentils; garlands hang from the cartouches to separate the eighth floor bays. The large, overhanging cornice features modillions and is surmounted by a low parapet wall. The Terre Haute Trust Company maintained their offices on the first three floors of this building from 1908 to 1934, with other professional offices located in the upper stories. The building was purchased by Merchants National Bank in 1934 and the interior was re-modeled in 1969.

The Tribune Building
721-725 Wabash

Photo 40, Bldg. 107

The Tribune Building is a six-story brick and stone office building which faces north onto Wabash Street. It was constructed in 1912 to house the Terre Haute Tribune, a daily newspaper founded in 1894. Although constructed after the nearby Terre Haute Trust Building, its design shows little of the Chicago influence so pronounced in its neighbor. The ground floor of the building has been altered, although its cast-iron elements are still visible, and currently contains large plate-glass windows flanking a centrally-located main entry. A limestone cornice with dentils separates this level from the second floor, which is divided into three equal bays by piers constructed of rusticated limestone blocks. Each bay contains a grouping of three rectangular, one-over-one windows separated by pilasters. Another cornice, decorated with modillions, appears above these windows. The third, fourth, and fifth floors are each likewise divided into three bays by the brick continuations of the second floor piers; each bay contains three windows with limestone sills and lintels. The sixth floor is similarly divided but features round arched windows with limestone hood molds with keystones. The original cornice has been removed. This building still contains the offices of the Terre Haute Tribune, as well as those of its morning counterpart, the Star.

Wabash Avenue—East Historic District

Multiple Ownership

Terre Haute House
700-18 Wabash

Photo 43, Bldg. 272

The Terre Haute House is the third hotel since 1838 to be located at the north-east corner of Seventh and Wabash Avenue. Commissioned by Crawford and Edward Fairbanks in 1927-28, the hotel cost over \$1,000,000 to construct and occupied almost half a city block. Architectural work was by William Earl Russ, and William P. Jungclaus Company served as general contractor.

Designed in the Renaissance Revival style, the ten story hotel features an elaborate limestone facade on the first two floors. This section is rectangular in plan and features six Tuscan columns and other ornamental detailing. Floors three through eight, rising from this base, have a U-shaped plan and feature brick construction with relatively little ornamentation. The upper two floors, containing the penthouse, feature limestone detailing and a hipped red tile roof. Originally built to serve travelers, the building has been a residential hotel since 1970.

Swope Block
19-31 S. 7th

Photo 44, Bldg. 253

The Swope Block is a three-story Renaissance Revival building located on the northwest corner of Ohio and Seventh Streets. Built in 1901, the building was designed by an Evansville architectural firm and was intended to provide retail space on the ground floor, office space on the second, and lodge rooms on the third. Two rooms on the second floor were also reserved for the residence of Sheldon Swope, the Terre Haute jeweler who owned the building.

The building faces east on South Seventh Street and features an elaborate limestone main facade. This facade is symmetrical around the center entrance pavilion, which features a round arched entrance flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters and surmounted by a pediment bearing the name and construction date of the structure. The vertical continuation of this pavilion features small rectangular windows on the second floor level, a pair of round arched windows on the third floor, and a pediment surmounting the entablature. The units of the building on either side of the pavilion are each divided into three bays; on the first floor each bay contains a storefront, while on the second and third floors each bay contains three identical rectangular windows separated by stone piers. All but one of the storefronts have been remodeled, but the upper floors retain their architectural integrity. The center window in each third floor bay is surmounted by an ornate pedimented window hood supported by consoles. The entablature features a paneled frieze and a cornice decorated with dentils.

Significance:

The Wabash Avenue—East Historic District is significant architecturally and historically as a relatively intact collection of commercial buildings in various 19th and 20th century styles. These buildings represent a number of businesses that made Terre Haute prosperous during the late 19th and early 20th

Wabash Avenue—East Historic DistrictMultiple OwnershipVerbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northwest corner of the property located at 7-15 S. Seventh Street (272); then proceeding east along the northern property line of this property to the north property line of the property at 720-722 Wabash (148); then east along the north property lines of those buildings fronting on Wabash to Eighth Street; then south along the west curblin of Eighth Street to the alley located between Wabash and Ohio Streets; then west along the north side of this alley to the northern extension of the east property line of the property located at 20 S. Seventh Street (271); then south along the east property line of this and adjacent properties fronting on Seventh Street to Ohio Street; then west along the north curblin of Ohio Street to the southern extension of the western property line of that property located at 19-31 South Seventh Street (253); then north along this line to the alley located between Wabash Avenue and Ohio Street; then west along the northern edge of this alley to the west property line of that property located at 673-683 Wabash (105); then north along that line to Wabash Avenue; then east along the south curblin of Wabash Avenue to Seventh Street; then north along the east curblin of Seventh Street to the western extension of the northern property line of the property at 7-15 S. Seventh Street; then east along this line to the point of beginning.

East Wabash District Building Inventory

<u>Building Number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Building Name</u>
105	673-683 Wabash	Kaufman Block
106	701-703 Wabash	Terre Haute Trust Company
107	721-725 Wabash	Tribune Building
108	727 Wabash	
148	720-722 Wabash	
149	724 Wabash	Fort Harrison Savings Association
150	726-730 Wabash	Bement-Rea Building
253	19-31 S. 7th	Swope Block
254	683 Wabash	
268	30-32 S. 7th	
269	26-28 S. 7th	
270	22-24 S. 7th	
271	20 S. 7th	Worrell Building
272	700-718 Wabash	Terre Haute House

St. Joseph's Church and School District

The symmetrical main (east) facade is five bays wide and is the only facade that has not been covered with stucco. The center bay of this facade is a projecting pavilion crowned by a classical pediment with a Celtic cross at its apex. The ground floor level of this pavilion contains the main entryway, which is flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a semicircular fan light. A portico protects this main entry; this portico has a classical entablature with dentils and a cornice, and is supported by slender wooden columns ascending in pairs from a low brick porch wall. The tympanums of both the pavilion and the portico feature foliated ornamentation. The cornerstone of the building bears the Franciscan coat of arms and the inscription "A.D./O.M.C./1894."

St. Joseph's Male Academy
101 S. 5th Street

Photo 51, Bldg. 222

St. Joseph's parish established the city's first Catholic school, a girls' academy, in 1848. Its counterpart, St. Joseph's Male Academy, was not established until 1888, when this massive Romanesque Revival building was constructed. A hip roofed brick building now covered with stucco, the structure is two stories tall and features an elevated first floor. The main (east) facade is tripartite in design with a large gabled pavilion comprising the center section. A set of rough-cut stone steps leads from the sidewalk to the main entry, located in this pavilion. The glazed wooden double doors are framed by a transom and sidelights, and a wooden entablature above the transom underscores a large, multi-paned, semicircular fan-light. The spandrels on either side of this fan-light carry a large carved stone panel with a floral motif, bearing the legend, "St. Joseph's 1888 Male Academy." Three rectangular, double-hung windows appear immediately above this ornament, and they, in turn, are surmounted by a large semicircular stone tablet in the pavilion's gable area. Carved in this tablet, and also in the cross at the apex of the gable, is the Franciscan coat of arms. The north facade echoes the design of the main facade, but is less elaborate and lacks the main entry and the carved stone panels. A cornerstone at the northeast corner of the building carries a Latin inscription and the date of the building's construction. This structure served as the parish school until 1957, when dwindling enrollment caused it to be closed. It currently houses a private elementary school called The Learning Tree.

Significance:

The St. Joseph's Catholic Church and School District is an architecturally and historically significant collection of buildings associated with the religious and educational programs of Terre Haute's oldest Catholic parish. Included in the district are the current church and rectory buildings and the former boys' school. These structures each played an important role in the development of the parish, which came to exert a considerable amount of cultural, religious, and educational influence on the city's working class well into the 20th century.

St. Joseph's Church and School District

Significance, Continued

St. Joseph's parish was founded in 1837 to serve the needs of Terre Haute's Catholic population, which was growing steadily as German and Irish immigrants came to work on railroad and canal construction. A brick church was built in 1838, and a girls' academy was opened ten years later. The parish grew rapidly, and despite the fact that the German Catholics established a separate parish (St. Benedict's) in 1864, St. Joseph's was forced to enlarge its church building around 1870. A boys' school (222) was established in 1888, and a new rectory building (221) was completed in 1896. By 1910, the parish had once again outgrown its church building, and accordingly it was razed and replaced with a new structure (220), completed in 1912. Throughout this time period and continuing through the first half of the 20th century, the church provided for the religious and educational needs of thousands of Terre Haute residents, and helped shape the cultural and social attitudes of the city. Although the character of the neighborhood has gradually changed from residential to commercial, the parish has remained in its original location and still is considered a strong force within the community.

Architecturally, the district is best known for the current church building, a German Romanesque structure of monumental scale designed by Jupiter G. Vrydagh. Vrydagh, a prominent local architect, was well-known for his use of the Romanesque style in public schools and commercial buildings, such as 400-406 Wabash Avenue (photo 34, building 125). Although not designed by Vrydagh, St. Joseph's Male Academy is another example of the Romanesque Revival style, this time adapted to suit institutional needs. It features the round arched openings and massive masonry construction typical of the style, with carved stone panels on the main facade. The rectory building, a considerably smaller structure than the other two buildings in the district, features Neo-Classical design elements including a pedimented pavilion and a portico sheltering the main entry. Together, the three structures in the district comprise what is probably the best preserved 19th century church complex in the city.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Approximately one acre

Quad: Terre Haute 1:24000

UTM References: 16/464620/4368250

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Ohio and Fifth Streets, then proceeding south along the western curblin of Fifth Street to the eastern extension of the south property line of the property located at 115 S. Fifth Street (220); then west along that line to the alley located between Fourth and Fifth Streets; then north along the eastern edge of that alley to Ohio Street; then east along the south curblin of Ohio Street to the point of beginning.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY--NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Item number 9

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Downtown Terre Haute Multiple Resource Area

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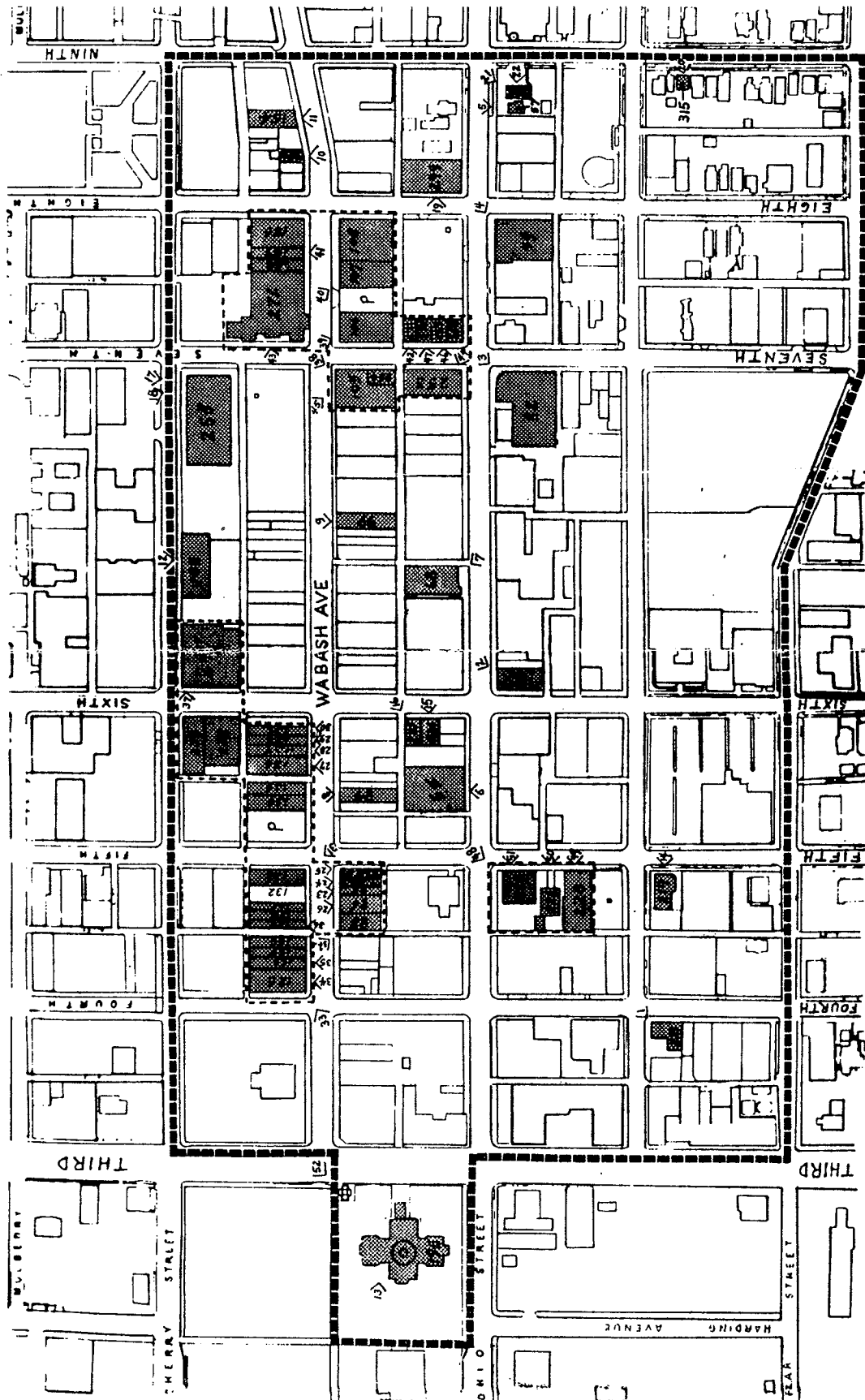
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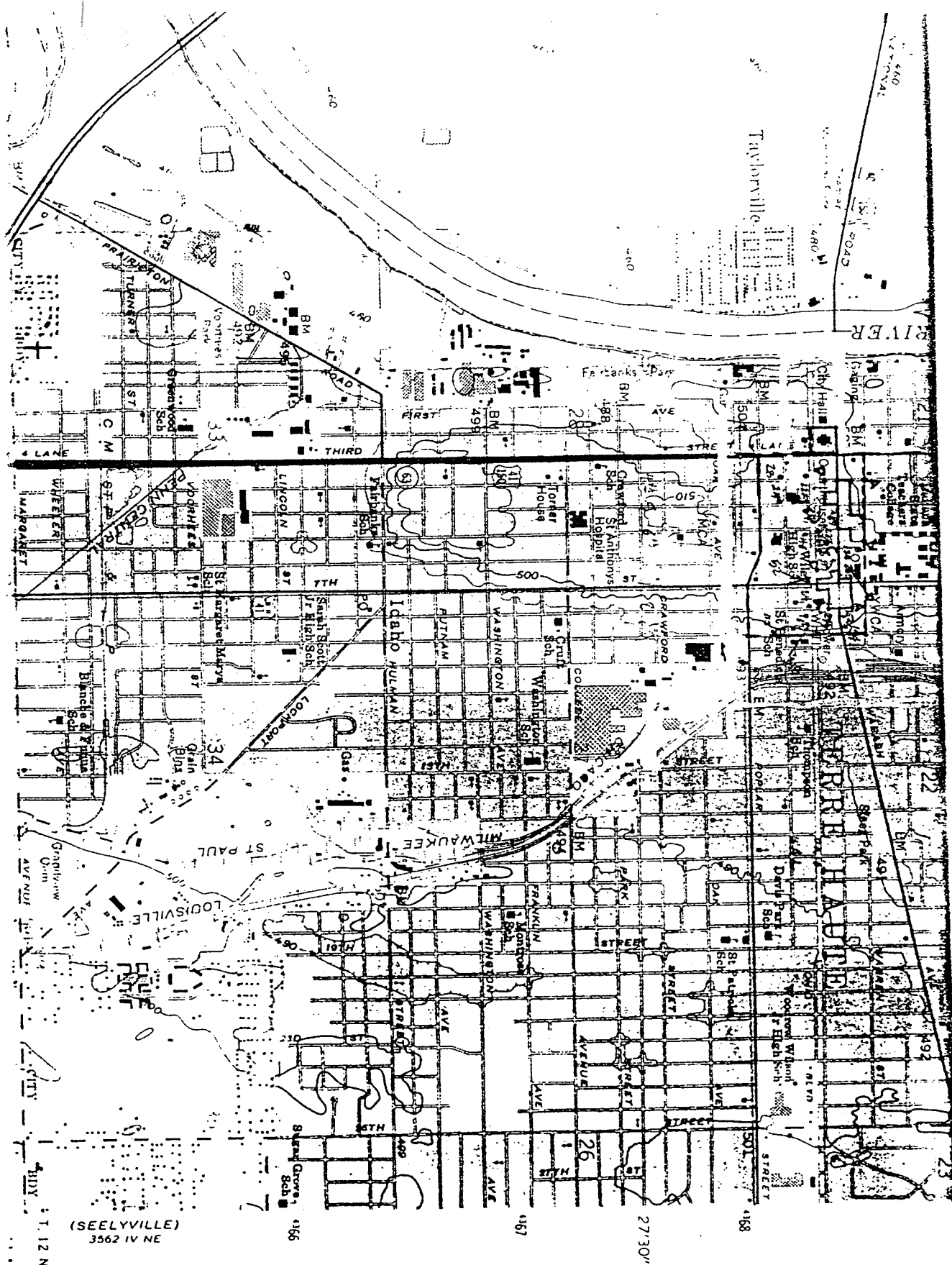
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